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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/591,546	09/01/2006	Jozef Laurentius Kessels	NL04 0184 US1	4840
65913	7590	11/14/2008		
NXP, B.V. NXP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT M/S41-SJ 1109 MCKAY DRIVE SAN JOSE, CA 95131			EXAMINER ABBASZADEH, JAWEED A	
			ART UNIT 2115	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 11/14/2008	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

ip.department.us@nxp.com

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/591,546	<b>Applicant(s)</b> KESSELS, JOZEF LAURENTIUS	
	<b>Examiner</b> JAWEED A. ABBASZADEH	<b>Art Unit</b> 2115	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 September 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/1/2006</u> .  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

Claims 1-10 are presented for examination.

#### ***Claim Objections***

Claim 10 is objected to because of the following informalities: Line 3 of claim 10 states, “a-synclwonous.” It is suggested that this be changed to “a-synchronous.” Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: Line 13 of claim 1 states, “at least.” It is suggested that this wording be removed since line 11 already states “at least” and therefore would be redundant.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 10 recites the limitation “***the signal value***” in Line 11. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

It is unclear which signal provides antecedent basis for this limitation. A timing signal and a control signal are two possibilities in the claim.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States

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only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mackey et al US 7,123,674.

As to claim 1, Mackey et al. teaches a circuit comprising a first [Fig. 3, 302] and a second circuit module [Fig. 3, 304] and a synchronization module [Fig. 3, 306] the first and the second module being mutually a-synchronous, and being coupled by the synchronization module [col. 2, lines 34-39], the synchronization module comprising

a transfer register for storing data which is communicated between the two circuit modules [Fig. 3, 311 and col. 2, lines 40-41],

a control circuit [Fig. 3, 312] for controlling the register in response to a respective timing signal (St1, St2) from the first and the second circuit module [Fig. 3, SCLK and DCLK and col. 2, lines 45-53], the control circuit comprising a control chain [Fig. 4, 402a, 402b, 419, 416, 402c, 415 and col. 2, lines 65-67] for generating a control signal (CR) for the transfer register [Fig. 4, 315 and col. lines 45-49] the control chain including at least

- a repeater for inducing changes in the value of the control signal [Fig. 4, 415—An XOR gate can change the value of the source enable signal 315 depending on the output of 402b],

- at least one edge sensitive element for delaying a change in the signal value until a transition in a selected one of the timing signals is detected [Fig. 4, 402a, 402b, 402c—D flip flops are edge sensitive and are triggered by the edge of a clk

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signal. D flip flops have an inherent delay and delay the signal fed through the flip flops as the transition of the clock signal triggers each flip flop, finally allowing the signal to arrive to the XOR gate 415, causing a change in the signal].

As to claims 2-10, Mackey et al. teaches these claims according to the reasoning set forth in claim 1.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAWEED A. ABBASZADEH whose telephone number is (571)270-1640. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri: 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas C. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-3667. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Jaweed A Abbaszadeh/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2115  
11/5/2008

/Thomas Lee/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2115